

ATTACHMENT

10 December 1973

LAW OF THE SEA GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The Third International Law of the Sea (LOS) Conference, held under the auspices of the United Nations, begins with an organizational session in New York City in December 1973. A ten-week substantive session is scheduled to be held in Caracas, Venezuela, during the Summer of 1974, and a subsequent session, if necessary, will be held in Vienna in 1975. Encompassing a broad range of marine topics, the Conference seeks to establish new rules on the sovereignty and uses of the world's oceans, and create new institutions to oversee these rules. The outcome of this Conference has important economic, political, and military implications not only for the United States, but for the entire world.

2. Preparations for this Conference have been underway for three years in the UN Seabed Committee with an active participation of 91 countries. The Conference itself will include representatives from over 140 countries, many outside the UN organization.

3. Collection in support of US policy decisions and negotiations should include information on each country's attitudes, actions, and policies in regard to the Conference itself, and to the LOS issues. A subject collection guide should include:

a. Territorial Seas and Contiguous Zones

- Limits claimed
- Claims under consideration
- Attitude on broad unilateral claims

b. Passage Through and Over Straits

- Movement of vessels in "innocent passage" or "free transit"
- Movement of aircraft

c. Mineral Exploration and Exploitation of the Deep Seabeds

- Control through an International Regime and Machinery
- Interest in deep-sea nodules (manganese, nickel, copper, and cobalt)
- Activity in related land mining operations

d. Mineral Exploration and Exploitation in the Coastal Seabed Area

- Seaward limit of coastal state jurisdiction (200 miles, 200 meters, continental margin, etc.)
- Attitudes on other uses of the coastal area, like navigation and scientific research, etc.

e. Fisheries

- Size and nature of fleet (distant-water, coastal) and catch
- Location of activity
- Treaties and agreements
- Incidents and confrontations
- Attitudes on greater coastal state control over coastal species or anadromous species (like salmon)
- Attitudes on control over highly migratory species (like tuna)

f. Marine Pollution

- Standards for and controls over vessel-source and seabed-source pollution

g. Marine Scientific Research

- Attitudes on freedom of marine research

h. Key Law of the Sea Personalities

- Specialty, title, and affiliation
- Make-up of conference delegation
- Attitude on LOS issues
- Other personal biographic information